

**Natural Resources Conservation & Development Board**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
Tuesday, February 17, 2009 at 9:00 a.m.  
Teleconference

*Board members in attendance:*

Cheryl Thompson  
Carol Kenley  
Suzanne Fisler

*Others in attendance:*

Shana Joy, DNR  
Betty Vehrs, AACD  
Jerry Norum, Fairbanks SWCD  
Gary Morrison, Alaska SWCD  
Ryan Stencel, Alaska SWCD  
Cynthia Olson, Upper Susitna SWCD  
Jeanne Ostnes on behalf of Rep. Craig Johnson  
Sandra Wilson on behalf of Rep. Gatto  
Jan Flora

- ☐ Call to Order – Determination of Quorum
  - It was determined that a quorum was present and the meeting was called to order by Suzanne Fisler at 9:06 a.m.
- ☐ Approval of Agenda
  - The board passed unanimously the agenda as presented.
- ☐ Approval of February 3, 2009 Meeting Minutes
  - The board passed unanimously the minutes as presented.
- ☐ HB 70 Overview/Questions – Sandra Wilson on behalf of Representative Gatto
  - Sections 4, 6, and 7 have been removed from original version. What is left is the farm to school program. The bill would assist in making the connection between schools and local producers as well as getting agriculture education in the classroom.
  - The existing 7% Alaska bidder's preference still exists and this bill will help procurement officers become familiar with Alaska producers and this connection will help get more Alaska products to local consumers.
  - A fiscal note has not been requested yet because the bill has not yet been heard. Sandra anticipates a hearing will be requested this week and will be scheduled sometime after that to be heard in House Resources.
  - Carol would like to get more input from the districts. Cheryl is inclined to support the bill. Betty Vehrs offered to bring the bill before the Wasilla SWCD board at Suzanne will bring it up at the Homer district board meeting soon. It would be helpful to see the fiscal note.
  - Shana clarified that if the board waits to take final action on this matter until their meeting in late March, it will not be too late in the legislative

process for a letter to be considered. The fiscal note should be available by then for the board's information as well.

- Cheryl amended her earlier motion, to support the bill unless negative feedback is received from the districts, to postpone action on the bill to the March meeting. Carol seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
- It was further clarified that many of the text in the bill is existing text and only the portions that are underlined are new additions.

☐ HB 12 Overview/Questions – Jeanne Ostnes on behalf of Representative Craig Johnson

- Betty offered that Brianna Ahearne's summary of the bill was that the stakeholders will be brought to the table under this bill. Why would the council be placed under ADF&G?
- The council residing under ADF&G is logical. They are equipped to deal with the non-plant invasive species and it might also be beneficial that they also have enforcement capability in place already.
- There may also be more ADF&G personnel in the field than DNR to take notice of invasives.
- The Commissioners are empowered to make decisions and progress action with seats on this council.
- The fiscal note has been rumored to be around \$195,000 which would include a person to do travel and prepare reports. Jeanne believes the fiscal note is a little high. It was brought up that Shana @ DNR and staff already in place at ADF&G could split up travel tasks to reduce the fiscal note.
- House Resources will hear the bill tomorrow afternoon and the hearing can be listened to on Gavel to Gavel.
- Shana will try to listen to the hearing and report to the board.
- Cheryl moved to support the letter. Carol seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

☐ Public Comments – None were offered.

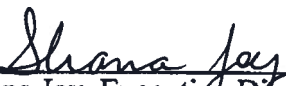
☐ Board Comments – None were offered.

☐ Next Meeting Date and Location – Possibly March 25<sup>th</sup> prior to the AACD Spring Conference. The NRCDB may be restricted from travelling for this event. Shana will report to the board shortly regarding the situation.

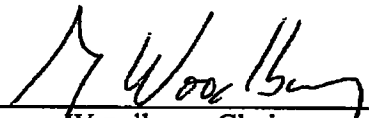
☐ Adjournment

- The motion for adjournment passed unanimously.

Minutes taken by:

  
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Shana Joy, Executive Director  
NRCDB

Minutes approved by:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
George Woodbury, Chair  
NRCDB